


## ACUTE FOOD INSECURITY | Weather extremes disrupted agricultural production, worsening acute food insecurity.

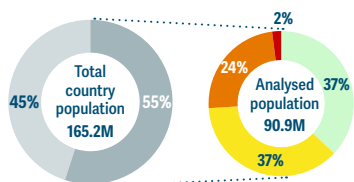
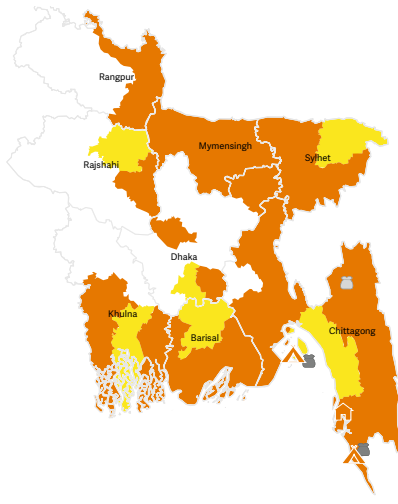
PEAK 2024 (OCTOBER–DECEMBER)


 **23.6M** people or 26% of the analysed population faced high levels of acute food insecurity. Of them, **1.6M** people were in Emergency (IPC Phase 4).

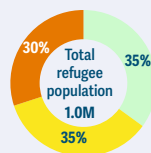
 The analysis included the Rohingya refugee population. **0.3M** or **30%** of them faced high levels of acute food insecurity.

Repeated flooding and storms pushed the peak to October–December 2024, instead of the lean season of April–September 2024. The IPC analysis has expanded since 2023 to cover flood-affected districts, explaining the sharp rise in the number of people facing high levels of acute food insecurity.


Comparable districts of Barishal, Khulna and Chattogram showed increased prevalence in high levels of acute food insecurity and those in Barishal division showed greater severity due to impacts of weather extremes. Flood-affected Kurigram and Sunamganj districts experienced the highest share of populations in IPC Phase 4, at 10 percent each.



 The analysis included **1.0M** Rohingya refugees



DRIVERS OF THE CRISIS 2024–2025

 **Weather extremes** Cyclone Remal in May 2024 damaged over 60 000 hectares of crops in southern coastal districts, while flooding from July to October affected 19 million people, displacing over 700 000 (OCHA, September 2024; IPC, November 2024; IFRC, October 2024).


In Cox's Bazar, flooding from the cyclone along with landslides caused damage to agricultural lands and destruction of shelters in the camps (IPC, November 2024).

The mid-August floods disrupted food access, causing income losses for one-third of affected households, and disrupted the Aman season rice production, which accounts for nearly 40 percent of the country's annual rice production. Over half a million tonnes of rice were lost, mainly in the eastern part of the country (FAO-DIEM, November 2024; ASAP, August 2024).

 **Economic shocks** Rice prices rose by 16.6 percent between October 2023 and 2024. Wheat prices stabilized in this period, but remained above the four-year average (WFP, October 2024; FAO-FPMA, 2024). Continued inflationary pressure limited household purchasing power and reduced access to food (IPC, November 2024). Food inflation reached 12.7 percent and headline inflation 10.9 percent in October 2024 (IMF, 2024).

 **Conflict/insecurity** Ongoing conflict in Myanmar drove an additional 65 000 refugees to Cox's Bazar, creating tensions between refugees and host communities over competition in labour markets and access to agricultural land (UNHCR, January 2025).

### DISPLACEMENT


 **1.0M** refugees and asylum-seekers

Source: UNHCR Nowcasted estimate, December 2024.

**A protracted food crisis** Bangladesh is a lower-middle-income country. Its Cox's Bazar district has been included in the GRFC since the second edition due to the arrival of around 750 000 refugees from Rakhine state in Myanmar in 2017. In 2023, an IPC analysis expanded coverage to approximately 23 percent of its population, focusing on areas prone to climatic disasters – monsoon floods, cyclones, tidal surges, landslides and riverbank erosion – as well as Rohingya refugees and host communities in Cox's Bazar. The scope expanded further to cover 40 districts and 55 percent of its population in 2024. Bangladesh is highly vulnerable to weather shocks, while continued conflict in Myanmar has prevented the safe and dignified return of Rohingya refugees.

## NUTRITION CRISIS | Among displaced populations in Cox's Bazar, 2023 data indicated a worsening nutrition situation.

PEAK 2023 (NO NEW DATA FOR 2024)

 In Kutupalong Mega Camps (31 unregistered camps) acute malnutrition prevalence was 15.4 percent, indicating a Critical (IPC AMN Phase 4) situation in November 2023. The acute malnutrition prevalence in registered camps was 9.6 percent, indicating it was close to a Serious (IPC AMN Phase 3) situation (UNHCR-SENS, January 2024).

This marks a deterioration since 2022, which was attributed to inadequate infant and young child feeding practices, with only 16.3 percent of children aged 6–23 months across all camps consuming a minimum acceptable diet.

In addition, diarrhoea levels were high, with 21.6 percent of children aged 6–59 months having experienced an episode within the two weeks prior to the survey.

In 2024, monsoon-related flooding reduced access to nutrition services and damaged sanitation infrastructure (UN RC Bangladesh, September 2024). Waterborne disease outbreaks and a lack of adequate health facilities contributed to a challenging nutrition situation (UNICEF, March 2024).

Source: Bangladesh IPC TWG, November 2024.